

In the claims

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating with a remote set top box (STB) that provides a service to end users comprising the step of:

receiving at a first location remote from the STB a first item of information related to parameter settings associated with the STB from the STB, the parameter settings affecting the provisioning of the service to the end user; and

comparing at the first location remote from the STB the first item of information with a second item of information, the second item of information being related to parameter settings expected to be associated with the STB; and

based on a result of the comparing, communicating an instruction ~~involving to~~ change at least one of the parameter settings affecting the provisioning of the service to the end user from the first location remote from the STB to the STB.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the second item of information is received by the first location remote from the STB from a database.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the first item of information includes information related to a fixed disc drive.

9-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the STB is integrated into a television.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having encoded instructions that causes at least one computer to:

receive a first item of information from a set top box (STB) that provides a service to end users, wherein the first item of information relates to parameter settings that affect the provisioning of the service to the end user and that are associated with the STB;

retrieve a second item of information from a database spaced from the STB, wherein the second item of information relates to an expected configuration of the STB;

compare the first item of information with the second item of information; and

send an STB instruction to the STB wherein the instruction is adapted to ~~perform a function on the STB that is related to~~ change at least one of the parameter settings affecting the provisioning of the service to the end user.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 25, wherein the second item of information is received from a database.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein the encoded instructions further cause the STB instructions to be sent to a remote resource manager of the STB and wherein the encoded instructions further cause the remote resource manager to detect the resources and send the first item of information.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim ~~29~~ 25, wherein the encoded instructions further cause the STB to receive user input that requests a new service, and determine by the remote resource manager whether the STB has the resources to support the new service.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 25, wherein the STB is integrated into a television.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 25, wherein the STB instructions provide for at least one of enabling a resource of the STB related to the first item of information, disabling a resource of the STB related to the first item of information, including authorization keys related to the first item of information, and

causing the STB to diagnose a problem of the STB related to the first item of information.

31. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the service comprises audio and video content playback.

32. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 25, wherein the service comprises audio and video content playback.